

Claims

[c1] WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.A retaining leaf spring sun visor detent assembly for automobile sun visor hinges comprising:
a housing member symmetrical about a longitudinal center plane, said housing having a generally U shape, the longitudinal ends of said U shape housing member having a plurality of openings spacedly located therein, a saddle member symmetrical about a longitudinal center plane, said saddle having a generally flattened U shape, the longitudinal ends of said flattened U shape having a plurality of openings spacedly located therein and further located to correspond to the plurality of openings in said housing member, and
a leaf spring having a plurality of tabs spacedly located thereon and further located to correspond to the plurality of openings in said housing member and said saddle member,
thereby holding said retaining leaf spring sun visor detent assembly together as a single unit by said leaf spring tabs projecting through said openings in said housing member and said saddle member.

- [c2] 2.The invention as claimed in Claim 1 wherein, said housing member and said saddle member are comprised of sheet steel.
- [c3] 3.The invention as claimed in Claim 2 wherein, said sheet steel has a thickness of from about 0.3 mm to about 0.8 mm.
- [c4] 4.The invention as claimed in Claim 2 wherein, said sheet steel has a thickness of about 0.5 mm.
- [c5] 5.The invention as claimed in Claim 1 wherein, said leaf spring comprises sheet spring steel.
- [c6] 6.The invention as claimed in Claim 5 wherein, said sheet spring steel has a thickness of from about 0.7 mm to about 1.1 mm.
- [c7] 7.The invention as claimed in Claim 5 wherein, said sheet spring steel has a thickness of about 0.9 mm.
- [c8] 8.The invention as claimed in Claim 1 wherein, said leaf spring has two curved portions separated by a flat portion and further having a flat portion on each end.
- [c9] 9.The invention as claimed in Claim 1 wherein, said tabs on said leaf spring are located on each side of each flat portion.

[c10] 10.A retaining leaf spring sun visor detent assembly for automobile sun visor hinges comprising:

a housing member symmetrical about a longitudinal center plane, said housing having a generally U shape, the longitudinal ends of said U shape housing member having;

a first plurality of openings spacedly located therein, and further having inwardly facing tabs located on each of said plurality of openings ,and

a second plurality of openings spacedly located therein having inwardly facing tabs located on each of said plurality of openings, said second plurality inwardly facing tabs positioned to correspond with the plurality of openings in the saddle; and

a saddle member, being shorter in length than said housing member and the leaf spring, and symmetrical about a longitudinal center plane, said saddle having a generally flattened U shape and further being shorter in length than said housing member and said leaf spring, the longitudinal ends of said flattened U shape having a plurality of openings spacedly located therein and further located to correspond to the second plurality of openings in said housing member; and

a leaf spring,

whereby said retaining leaf spring sun visor detent assembly being held together as a single unit by said

housing member tabs projecting inwardly.

- [c11] 11.The invention as claimed in Claim 10 wherein, said housing member and said saddle member are comprised of sheet steel.
- [c12] 12.The invention as claimed in Claim 11 wherein, said sheet steel has a thickness of from about 0.3 mm to about 0.8 mm.
- [c13] 13.The invention as claimed in Claim 11 wherein, said sheet steel has a thickness of about 0.5 mm.
- [c14] 14.The invention as claimed in Claim 10 wherein, said leaf spring comprises sheet spring steel.
- [c15] 15.The invention as claimed in Claim 14 wherein, said sheet spring steel has a thickness of from about 0.7 mm to about 1.1 mm.
- [c16] 16.The invention as claimed in Claim 14 wherein, said sheet spring steel has a thickness of about 0.9 mm.
- [c17] 17.The invention as claimed in Claim 10 wherein, said leaf spring has two curved portions separated by a more tightly curved portion.
- [c18] 18.The invention as claimed in Claim 10 wherein, said openings and said tabs in said housing member are

formed in a single operation.

[c19] 19.A sun visor for use in automobiles having the leaf spring sun visor detent assembly as claimed in Claim 1 mounted therein.

[c20] 20.A sun visor for use in automobiles having the leaf spring sun visor detent assembly as claimed in Claim 10 mounted therein.